



## 2006 Writing Contest

Each year, the Chemical Corps Regimental Association sponsors a writing contest. The contest is open to military personnel in all branches and services, including allied nations and civilians of any nationality. The purpose of the contest is to stimulate thinking and writing on issues of concern to the Chemical Corps.

The themes for the 2006 writing contest are—

- **Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) tasks in full-spectrum operations.** Compare and contrast CBRN tasks for Soldier, leader, and collective accomplishment in full-spectrum operations (offensive; defensive; military support for stability, security, transition, and reconstruction operations [SSTR]; and defense support of civil authorities [DSCA]). Discuss traditional CBRN tasks performed during major combat operations (MCO), traditional and nontraditional tasks performed during stability operations (such as foreign consequence management), and civil support operations (such as domestic consequence management). Describe the similarities or differences in like tasks (such as site reconnaissance during MCO, SSTR, and DSCA) performed in full-spectrum operations.
- **Chemical units in the modular force.** Discuss the capabilities, limitations, and employment (including tactics, techniques, and procedures) of the modular Chemical companies—Chemical company (combat support), Chemical company (heavy), Chemical company (biological detection), Chemical company (smoke) (mechanized), and Chemical company (smoke) (wheeled)—in the Army modular force and the CBRN reconnaissance platoons in infantry, heavy, and Stryker brigade combat teams (BCTs).
- **The Chemical Corps' role in protecting forces from environmental and industrial hazards.** Identify the missions that Chemical units should conduct to protect forces (personnel and equipment) from environmental and industrial hazards (the full range of CBRN hazards), and describe the complementary relationships and roles of Chemical and Engineer units (such as pollution prevention and hazardous material and waste disposal) and medical operations (such as preventive medicine and medical laboratory operations) and the coordination required between the two Corps' missions. Discuss the potential roles that other corps (such as the Military Police or Quartermaster Corps) can contribute to force protection operations involving CBRN hazards.
- **The historical progression of the use of nuclear and radiological weapons.** Describe the role of nuclear weapons at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels from 1945 to the present, including the emergence of radiological weapons as a threat. Discuss the potential roles of nuclear and radiological weapons over the next 25 to 30 years and the capabilities that the United States should develop or retain to deter and defend against these threats.
- **Network-enabled CBRN operations.** Discuss how CBRN defense operations, including staff functions and capabilities, will change or should change at the BCT level given a future combat system (FCS)-equipped, network-enabled future force.

Each article should be submitted as a double-spaced paper manuscript accompanied by a compact disk containing the file in Microsoft Word format. The article should be between 500 and 2,500 words in length and contain the appropriate footnotes, bibliography, and graphic or photo support. Hard copy photos are preferred; however, if digital photos are submitted, they should be saved at a 200 dpi/ppi or higher resolution and at the actual size. In addition to the manuscript, submissions should include a cover sheet with the author's name, title, organization, complete mailing address, and a short biography.

To ensure anonymity in the selection process, the author's name should not appear in the manuscript itself. The selection panel will rank submissions on a 100-point scale, with up to 40 points assigned for writing clarity, 30 points for relevance to Chemical Soldiers, 20 points for general accuracy, and 10 points for originality.

The authors of the winning articles will be awarded the following:

**First place, \$500**

**Second place, \$300**

**Third place, \$150**

The deadline for submissions for the 2006 writing contest is 2 January 2007. Please forward your submissions to—

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## Hellfire Chapter of the Chemical Corps Regimental Association

*By Captain Brian Cyr*

It took eight years, but the Hellfire chapter of the Chemical Corps Regimental Association (CCRA) has been realized. This was Lieutenant Colonel Tommy Steele's final mission as commander of the 84th Chemical Battalion (the Hellfire battalion). "I'm glad it's a done deal. I had a lot of help in making this happen," Steele said.

Sixty-two members of the 84th (past and present) were inducted as charter members when the chapter was stood up on 21 June 2006. The new president, Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Thomas, hopes to see the chapter grow rapidly. "This has been long overdue, and now Fort

Leonard Wood [Missouri] has a chapter of its own," Thomas said. CCRA members with strong ties to the 84th Chemical Battalion (including those stationed at locations other than Fort Leonard Wood) can request membership in the Hellfire chapter by contacting Shannon Hazlett by e-mail at <ccramanager@earthlink.net> or by telephone at (573) 329-0600. ☎

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*CPT Cyr is the Chief of Chemical Training Department, 84th Chemical Battalion, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.*

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